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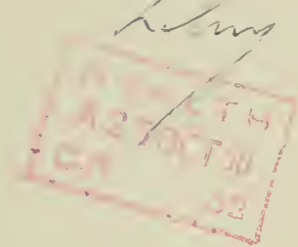
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B I G G L E S W A D E   R U R A L   D I S T R I C T

C O U N C I L.

ANNUAL      REPORT      FOR      THE      YEAR      1959

of      the

MEDICAL      OFFICER      OF      HEALTH

and

PUBLIC      HEALTH      INSPECTOR

PUBLIC      HEALTH      STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

C.A. HARVEY, M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

H.W. PRIDMORE, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,

as Public Health Inspector and Meat and Foods Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

(a) P.E. Miller, M.A.P.H.I.

(b) K.D. Ballard, M.A.P.H.I.,

(c) J. Heaton, M.A.P.H.I., Appointed February, 1959.

Clerks:

(d) I. Roddie (Pupil-Public Health Inspector.)

(e) Miss D.F. Anderson (Shorthand-Typist.)

(f) Miss J. Spriggs (Telephonist & Clerk)  
Appointed 5th January, 1959.



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1959.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

BIGGLESWADE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances for the Biggleswade Rural District for 1959.

A review of the statistical table shows that the low death rate of previous years has been maintained, being 9.6 as compared with 11.6 for the country as a whole.

Disease of the heart and blood vessels and cancer are, as formerly, the major causes of death, the total deaths from cancer alone being 37. The birth rate is somewhat under the national rate, but it is pleasing to note that the infant mortality rate of 9.4 is much lower than the rate of 22.0 for England and Wales. There were no maternal deaths.

Of a total of 492 infectious diseases notified, 464 were attributable to Measles. There were no deaths from notifiable diseases, and no cases of Poliomyelitis were notified.

This will be my last Annual Report prior to my retirement as your Medical Officer of Health to which position I was appointed in 1937. During my 23 years service with the Council there have been several advances in the elimination of disease and the promotion of health.

In 1937 there were 35 cases of Diphtheria notified and there were 2 deaths. The Council agreed to a scheme whereby children of school age could be immunised against Diphtheria through the family Doctor, free of cost. All the Practitioners in the area agreed to participate. The last case of Diphtheria notified in the Rural area was in 1947. There is now no question as to the efficacy of immunisation and it should be stressed that only as long as the child population is adequately protected by immunisation will Diphtheria be kept in abeyance.

The introduction of the National Health Service Act in 1948 resulted in the extension of the facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of illness and the extension of the preventive health services particularly in relation to midwifery and home nursing, care of young children, home help, care of the elderly and mental health. All this has been of benefit not only to the individual but to the community as a whole.

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In 1956 the Ministry of Health introduced vaccination against Poliomyelitis, at first for children under 15 years of age, and the age has now been extended to persons under 40 years. From statistics in this and other countries it may confidently be assumed that vaccination will eventually subdue Poliomyelitis just as immunisation has subdued Diphtheria.

Since 1937 many new housing estates have been built and many unfit houses condemned with the result that many families have now an adequate healthy living space of which they had hitherto been deprived.

The purity of the water supply has been safeguarded by chlorination and the safety of milk ensured by pasteurisation and steps taken against the contamination of food both during its preparation and distribution.

The Scheme for the sewerage of the four parishes of Shefford, Clifton, Henlow and Langford, the necessity for which was mentioned in my Report for 1937, is now nearing completion. It is hoped that other parishes, whose need for a similar provision has been recommended, will not have to wait too long.

I have to acknowledge with thanks the willing help and co-operation which I have always received from the officials of the Council and their staffs.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. A. HARVEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) ..... 49,152  
Registrar-General's estimate of Population.. 27,470  
Number of inhabited houses end of 1959..... 7,392  
Rateable Value ..... £229,231.  
Sum represented by a penny rate ..... £930. 17. Od.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .....	199	211	410
Illegitimate .....	10	6	16
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	209	217	426
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Crude birth rate per 1,000 Home Population .....		15.5	
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 Home Population ...		14.9	
Birth Rate for England and Wales .....		16.5	

<u>STILL BIRTHS:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .....	5	4	9
Illegitimate .....	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	4	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Births .....		20.7	
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales .....		20.7	

<u>DEATHS:</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All causes.	147	146	293
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Home Population ...		10.7	
Area Comparability Factor .....		0.90	
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 Home Population.		9.6	
Death Rate for England and Wales .....		11.6	

Death from diseases and accidents  
of pregnancy and child birth:  
From Sepsis ..... 0  
From other causes ... 0

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0

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DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate .....	-	3	3
Illegitimate .....	1	-	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births ... 9.4  
Rate for England and Wales ..... 22.0

DEATHS FROM:-

Measles (all ages) ..... -  
Whooping Cough ..... -  
Influenza ..... 10  
Cancer (all ages) ..... 37

STATISTICAL TABLE 1950 - 1959.

Year	DEATH RATE		BIRTH RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE	
	Biggleswade R.D.	England & Wales.	Biggleswade R.D.	England & Wales.	Biggleswade R.D.	England & Wales.
1950	10.2	11.7	15.0	15.8	20.5	29.0
1951	8.7	12.5	11.7	15.5	28.6	29.6
1952	9.1	11.3	13.4	15.3	25.0	27.6
1953	10.6	11.4	14.4	15.5	15.9	26.8
1954	12.2	11.3	15.9	15.2	25.5	25.5
1955	13.2	11.7	14.2	15.0	8.0	24.9
1956	11.4	11.7	16.2	15.7	17.2	23.8
1957	9.4	11.5	16.7	16.1	22.2	23.0
1958	9.7	11.7	16.7	16.9	23.8	22.5
1959	9.6	11.6	15.5	16.5	9.4	22.0



CAUSES OF DEATH.

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics:-

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.	-	-
4. Diphtheria.	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-
8. Measles.	-	-
9. Other infective and parastic diseases.	1	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	2	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	5	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	1
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	12	12
15. Leukaemia, aleuknemia.	1	-
16. Diabetes.	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	16	18
18. Coronary disease, angina.	26	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	8	9
20. Other heart disease.	21	33
21. Other circulatory disease.	3	4
22. Influenza.	8	2
23. Pneumonia.	8	3
24. Bronchitis.	12	6
25. Other disease of respiratory ststem.	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	1	4
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	15	12
33. Motor vehicle accidents.	2	-
34. All other accidents.	2	8
35. Suicide.	2	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES.</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>146</u>

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES:1. Laboratory Facilities.

The services of the Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Kimbolton Road, Bedford, is available for the examination of any material submitted by the Health Department or by General Practitioners. This service is under the direction of the Medical Research Council through the Ministry of Health, and there is no charge to the Council. The laboratory undertakes the examination of throat swabs, sputum, urine and faeces, and blood from all cases of suspected infectious disease, and advice and assistance is always available.

2. Ambulance Facilities.

The Bedfordshire County Council provides a complete service covering the whole of the County. The service is a twenty-four hour one and is free of charge, and is available for the removal of all cases requiring admission to hospital and also for the transport of patients who are unable to use other means of transport to and from Hospitals or Clinics, so that they can receive any necessary treatment. The request for the provision of an ambulance must be made by a General Practitioner or by an Authorised Person.

The service is also available for transport of persons suffering from infectious disease to isolation hospital.

The following depots are situated in the eastern and northern districts of the County:-

Biggleswade	...	Crab Lane	...	Tel. Biggleswade	2295.
Bedford	...	Bedford Road,	"	Bedford	5335 &
		Kempston.			5336

3. Midwifery and Domiciliary Nursing Services.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council became the responsible authority for these services, the day to day administration being under the Eastern Divisional Health Committee.

The following is a list of the nurses and their districts:-

Midwifery and Domiciliary Nursing Services (Cont'd.)

<u>District.</u>	<u>Name and Address of Nurse.</u>	<u>Tel. No.</u>
Blunham. Mogerhanger. Sandy. Temsford.	Miss D.J. Peck, 68, St. Neots Road, Sandy.	Sandy 105.
Biggleswade. Dunton. Edworth. (Midwifery only.)	Miss M.P. Stafford, 47, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.	Biggleswade 3266.
Cockayne Hatley. Everton. Wyeworth. Potton. Sutton. Wrestlingworth.	Miss F.C. Bishop, 11, Festival Road, Potton.	Potton 234.
Biggleswade. Dunton. Edworth. (General Nursing only.)	Miss E. Dillstone, 2, High Street, Biggleswade.	Biggleswade 3177.
Astwick. Stotfold.	Mrs. P.R. Corns, 143, Vaughan Road, Stotfold.	Stotfold 372.
Clifton. Henlow.	Miss. A.H. Peddie, 31, High Street, Henlow.	Clifton 261.
ARLESEY.	Miss D.O. Mackinnon, Chase Farm Road, Arlesey.	Arlesey 362.
Campton. Chicksands. Meppershall. Shefford. Upper Stondon.	Miss D.M. Collie, 47, Southfields, Shefford.	Shefford 356.
Langford. Old Warden. Southill.	Mrs. E.M. Wyer, 62, Stratton Way, Biggleswade.	Biggleswade 2028.

4. Clinics and Treatment Centres.(a) Child Welfare Centres -

Arlesey.	Methodist Schoolroom	Monday p.m. Fortnightly.
Biggleswade.	"The Lawns", Health Centre.	Tuesday p.m. Weekly.
Blunham.	Village Hall.	Thursday p.m. Every four weeks.
Henlow.	R.A.F. Camp.	Thursday p.m. Fortnightly.
Langford.	Ivy Leaf Club.	Thursday a.m. Fortnightly.
Potton.	Church Hall.	Wednesday p.m. Fortnightly.
Sandy.	Church Room.	Thursday p.m. Fortnightly.
Shefford.	Digswell House.	Wednesday p.m. Weekly.
Stotfold.	Unionist Club.	Monday p.m. Fortnightly.
Tempsford.	Stuart Memorial Hall.	Thursday p.m. Every four weeks.
Wrestlingworth.	Memorial Hall.	Tuesday p.m. Every four weeks.
Henlow Village.	Village Hall.	Thursday a.m. Fortnightly.

(b) Ante-Natal clinics -

Biggleswade.	"The Lawns", Health Centre.	Tuesday a.m. Fortnightly.
Shefford.	"Digswell House"	Wednesday a.m. Fortnightly.
Stotfold.	Unionist Club.	Monday a.m. Fortnightly.

(c) Tuberculosis -

The Chest Clinic,  
Bedford General Hospital, (North Wing),  
Kimbolton Road,  
Bedford.

The days and times of attendance are:-

Tuesday	9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	} Females:
	2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	
Wednesday	9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	} Contacts. Doctors Mini Film Clinic.
	2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	
Thursday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Males.
Friday.	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	B.C.G. Vaccination.

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Clinics and Treatment Centres (Cont'd.)

(d) Venereal Diseases Clinic -

Bedford General Hospital (South Wing).

The days and time of attendance are:-

Men and	Wednesday	5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Women.	Friday	3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Medical Officer in attendance:-

Wednesday 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.Water Supply.

Water is supplied to the area by the Biggleswade Water Board and has proved very satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples have been taken periodically during the year and the results have shown that the supply is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

The following report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of a sample sent for examination on 19th March, 1959. is typical.

Chemical Examination in parts per Million.

Appearance - Bright, with a few particles.	
Colour.	Nil.
Turbidity.	Less than 3
Odour	Nil.
Reaction pH Neutral	7.5
Free Carbon Dioxide.	10.
Electric Conductivity at 20 degs. C.	350
Dissolved Solids dried at 180 degs. C.	265
Chlorine present as Chlorides	11
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	165
Hardness. Total	190
Carbonate	165
Non Carbonate	25
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absnet.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.000
Oxygen Absorbed	0.000
Albuminied Nitrogen.	0.000
Residual Chlorine	Absent.
Metals Iron	Absent.
Other Metals.	Absent.
To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21	

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Bacteriological Examination.

(Sampling bottles are treated to remove residual chlorine, if present.)

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in

1 day at 37 degs. C. .... 0 per ml  
2 days at 37 degs. C. .... 0 per ml.  
3 days at 20 degs. C. .... 0 per ml.

	<u>Present</u> <u>in.</u>	<u>Absent</u> <u>from.</u>	<u>Probable</u> <u>Number.</u>
Presumptive Coliform-aerogenes.			
Reaction.	Ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact._coli (Type 1.) .....	Ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. Welchii Reaction .....	Ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, just on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from iron and other metals. The water is moderately hard in character, contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of the highest standard of organic quality.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes as judged from the aspect of the chemical analysis.

25th March, 1959.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.(a) General Statistics.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

Diseases, (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1959.

Diseases.	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths registered.
Scarlet Fever	4	-	-
Whooping Cough	3	-	-
Measles	464	1	-
Pneumonia	11	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	7	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Jaundice	2	-	-

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ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1959.

Disease	Under 1 Year		1 to 3		3 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 25		25 to 35		35 to 45		45 to 65		65 & up- wards		Total all ages
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Measles	3	3	42	57	14	11	4	1	30	38	6	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	464
Acute Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	2	2	-	11
Febrile Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	8
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHtheria:

The County Council, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, provides this treatment free of charge through the family Doctor, or at School or a Child Welfare Centre. The figures have been supplied by the Eastern Divisional Medical Officer.

The number of cases of, and deaths from Diphtheria, have shown a remarkable decline since the introduction of immunisation, and no case has been notified in the district for several years. In order to ensure that outbreaks of this disease will not occur in the future, it is necessary that at least 75 per cent of all children under the age of 15 years should be protected effectively against the disease i.e., they should have had either a primary immunisation or a 'booster' injection within the last five years.

PROTECTION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH:

Since the 1st November, 1956 the County Council have made facilities available for the protection against Whooping Cough of young children who have not had the disease, and whose parents are desirous of having such protection given to their children. The Whooping Cough vaccine can be given alone, or in combination with Diphtheria Prophylactic.

Primary Immunisation during 1959.Table 1 - Diphtheria Only:-

Born	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1950	1949	Total
Age at	under	1	2	3	4	-1954	1945	under
31.12.58	1					5-9	10-14	15
Number								
Immun-	-	2	-	1	1	14	3	21
ised								

Table 2 - Diphtheria Immunisation and Whooping Cough Combined.

Born	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1950	1949	Total
Age at	under	1	2	3	4	-1954	-1945	under
31.12.59	1					5-9	10-14	15
Total								
Immun-	178	64	23	6	4	16	8	299
ised.								

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS:

The County Council scheme for the registration and vaccination against Poliomyelitis for the age groups of children as laid down by the Ministry of Health was continued through the Eastern Divisional Medical Officer.

At the end of 1959 in the whole of the Eastern Division 6,621 persons in the age groups 6 months to 25 years had received the full course of three injections.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows the number of new cases and the number of deaths in their age groups.

Age Distribution of Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under								
1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	8	6	3	-	-	-	-	-

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis)  
Regulations, 1925.

No action was taken under these regulations.

C. A. HARVEY.

"The Lawns",  
The Baulk,  
Biggleswade.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.  
FOR THE YEAR, 1959.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in submitting my seventeenth Annual Report upon the work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors.

Unfortunately it was not possible to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Keegan's resignation in July, 1958 until February of this year, when Mr. J. Heaton was appointed. No other changes in the staff have taken place during the year, and as will be seen from the following paragraphs, a considerable amount of work has been carried out.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Dwellinghouses inspected under the Public Health or Housing Act .....	927
Re-inspections and visits to works in progress .....	871
Visits to new buildings in course of erection .....	763
Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors .....	19
Visits and inspections of food premises .....	201
Visits re infectious disease .....	7
Number of rooms fumigated after infectious disease .....	7
Miscellaneous visits (including refuse collection and rodent control.) .....	2,781



HOUSING.

The work of dealing with sub-standard properties continues to exercise a considerable amount of your Inspectors' time.

During the year 62 houses were made fit as the result of informal action, and 17 were demolished, 20 families living in houses included in the Slum Clearance Programme were rehoused by the Council. 55 Applications for Improvement Grants ( 8 Standard and 47 Discretionary) were received. 52 of which were approved, and involved work to the value of £25,212 3s 2d.

4 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, and Notices of Intention to issue such Certificates were served on the owners.

NUISANCES.

All complaints of nuisance received during the year have been investigated and dealt with satisfactorily.

The following works were carried out during the year:-

Sanitary improvements (including drainage work) .....	942
Nuisances abated .....	51

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No cases of infestation were reported during the year.



SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.(a) Meat Inspection.

I am pleased to be able to report 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered at the 3 operative slaughterhouses in the area. In order to achieve this, it has been necessary to work a considerable amount of overtime, particularly at the weekends.

The new standards to be required for Slaughterhouses have been studied, and during 1960, the Slaughterhouses Report will be submitted to the Council, and The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Details of the animals slaughtered and carcasses inspected and condemned, are given in the following table:-

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1959.

	Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed.	2,651	193	94	5,376	25,000
Number Inspected.	2,651	193	94	5,376	25,000
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI.</u> -					
Whole carcasses con- demned.	-	4	3	2	38
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1,957	82	1	528	3,222
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci.	73.89	44.55	4.25	9.85	12.86
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	8	2	-	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	230	24	-	-	615
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	8.97	13.47	-	-	2.46

	Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and lambs.	Pigs.
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	16	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	16	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

The weight of meat found to be unfit for human food, was as follows:-

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Beef.	4	2	3	21
Beef Offal.	14	19	1	22
Mutton.			3	10
Mutton Offal.		9	1	21
Pork.	5	15	0	15
Pork Offal.	4	7	2	6
Veal.			4	8
Veal Offal.				27
<u>TOTAL.</u>	29	16	2	18

(b) \* MILK.

During the year 14 Dealer's Licences were issued. 23 samples were submitted for examination, all of which were satisfactory.

(c) OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

Regular visits have been paid to other food shops, and as a result, the following food has been found unfit for human consumption:-

997 Tins of various foodstuffs.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

This service has continued to function satisfactorily, although on a somewhat different basis. Hitherto, the Council has provided and maintained the vehicles, and labour has been by contract.

Towards the end of last year it was decided to advertize for tenders not only for labour for this work, but for the provision and maintenance of vehicles also.

The tenders of the original contractors were accepted, and they purchased all the Council's refuse collection vehicles.

Disposal of refuse continued to be by controlled tipping in a disused gravel pit owned by the Council at Henlow.

NIGHTSOIL REMOVAL AND CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

I am pleased to report this service continued very satisfactorily throughout the year in all parishes not served by public sewers.

Labour for this work is by contract, and the Council provide and maintain 3 cesspool emptying vehicles with nightsoil attachment. Nightsoil is removed once per week from dwellings with up to 3 occupants, and twice per week where there are 4 or more occupants. It is composted on agricultural land, and subsequently spread thereon at the expense of the Council.

Cesspools are emptied once per house per year free - upon request. A charge is made for more frequent emptyings.

RODENT CONTROL.

There is little new to report in connection with Rodent Control. A free service is given to private properties.

The following table shows the number of properties inspected and treated by the Rodent Operator:-

	<u>Local Authority.</u>	<u>Dwelling- houses.</u>	<u>All others including business.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
No. of properties inspected.	21	264	37	322
No. of properties inspected found to be infested.	21	119	5	145
No. of infested properties treated.	21	119	5	145

In addition to the above, test baiting of the Council's sewers was undertaken in Arlesey, Potton and Stotfold. Where evidence of infestation was found, the necessary treatment was carried out.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

All disposal works and pumping stations have been maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the year. All samples of effluent taken by the Pollution Prevention Officer, Great Ouse River Board have proved satisfactory.

A scheme for modernizing the Disposal Works at Potton is in progress, and the sewerage of Langford and Henlow has continued. It is hoped that the sewers in Henlow will be in operation in the near future.

/Other

(23)

Other works carried out during the year include the following:-

Laying of sewer and construction of pumping station, Pedley Lane, Clifton.

New Storm-Overflow and effluent drain at Arlesey.

New effluent discharge drain, Stotfold.

Extension of sewer, Arlesey Road, Stotfold.

In addition the Council have instructed their Consultants regarding the sewerage of Blunham, Campton, Everton, Meppershall and Northill.

#### DITCHES.

During the year 656 chains of polluted ditches have been cleansed at a total cost of £407. 19s. 6d.



RAINFALL.

The following table shows the rainfall recorded at the  
Sewage Disposal Works:-

<u>MONTH.</u>	<u>ARLESEY.</u>		<u>STOTFOLD.</u>		<u>POTTON.</u>	
	<u>Rainfall.</u>	<u>Days.</u>	<u>Rainfall.</u>	<u>Days.</u>	<u>Rainfall.</u>	<u>Days.</u>
January.	2.72"	13	2.76"	13	2.94"	17
February.	0.05"	2	0.06"	2	0.09"	5
March.	1.77"	13	1.87"	13	2.11"	21
April.	1.75"	13	1.52"	13	1.44"	19
May.	0.73"	6	0.86"	5	0.55"	7
June.	0.55"	8	0.80"	9	0.48"	12
July.	3.84"	9	3.47"	9	2.35"	12
August.	1.01"	7	0.72"	6	0.75"	8
September.	0.06"	1	0.06"	2	0.09"	2
October.	1.37"	13	1.31"	13	1.56"	22
November.	1.59"	14	1.62"	15	1.40"	20
December.	2.67"	22	2.45"	22	3.02"	29
<u>Total.</u>	18.11"	121	17.50"	122	16.78"	174

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES.ACT, 1937.1. Inspection -

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>Number on Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Number of written notices and Occupiers Prosecuted.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	31	29	-
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i), in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	84	42	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises.)	-	-	-
<u>Total.</u>	115	71	-

## 2. Cases in which defects were found:-

	Number of cases in which defects were found,		Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness.	2	2	-	2	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:-	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	2	2	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork.)	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	4	4	-	4	-

OUTWORK.  
Section 110.

Nature of Work.	No. of out. workers in August list required by Sec.110 ( ) c.	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.
Glove making & wearing apparel.	27	-	-	-

Section 111.

Notices served.

Nil.

Prosecutions.

Nil.



NEW BUILDINGS.

During the year 358 plans were submitted and approved, under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, and the Council's Building Byelaws.

48 other plans were submitted but not approved.

LICENCES TO DEAL IN GAME.

Visits and inspections.	3
Number of licences granted.	3

PETROLEUM ACTS.

Number of licences granted.	98		
Amount of fees received.	£61.	0s.	10d.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council, the Clerk and Medical Officer of Health, and their staffs for their consideration and support, and also to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal co-operation.

Your obedient servant,

H. W. PRIDMORE.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.